

CITIZENS' INDEPENDENT TRANSPORTATION TRUST (CITT)
External Affairs Committee Meeting
Tuesday, July 20, 2004
Stephen P. Clark Center
111 NW 1st Street
10th Floor Conference Room
10 AM

Summary Of Minutes

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Hon. Luis Morse, Chairman
Marc Buoniconti

Hon. James Reeder
Miles Moss

COUNTY ATTORNEY:

Bruce Libhaber

OTHERS PRESENT:

Irma San Roman, Interim Executive Director, OCITT	Virginia C. Diaz, OCITT
Nestor Toledo, OCITT	John Labriola, OCITT
Tarnell Carroll, MDT	Mayra Bustamante, MDT
Clinton Forbes, MDT	Ivonne Andres, MDT
Patrice Rosemond, OCITT	David Tinder, PWD
Rosie Perez, MDT	Sandra Melean, PWD
John Prats, OCITT	

Roll Call

With a quorum present, Luis Morse, Chairman of the External Affairs Committee, called the meeting to order at 10:10 a.m.

Approval of Agenda

Mr. Miles Moss moved for approval of the agenda. The motion was seconded by Mr. Buoniconti and carried without dissent.

Approval of Minutes

Mr. Reeder moved for approval of the May 18, 2004, minutes; seconded by Mr. Moss and carried without dissent.

Citizens' Comments

None

Reports/Old Business

Ms. Virginia Diaz, External Affairs Division Director, discussed the marketing campaign for CITT vacancies, including radio and print ads, targeting of community organizations and use of the Metropolitan Planning Organization database. Print and radio ads ran from June 9 to July 7 at a cost of approximately \$41,000. This effort yielded seventeen (17) District 9 applicants, ten (10) for District 7, three (3) for District 1 and seventy (70) countywide.

Reports/Old Business (Continuation)

Mr. Buoniconti suggested advertising on buses as an inexpensive alternative and asked which method was most effective at reaching applicants. Ms. Diaz recommended that a line should be added to the application asking how the applicant heard about it.

Consensus was reached on not setting an application deadline for countywide year-round recruitment. The External Affairs Committee's recommendation will be brought before the Nominating Selection Committee.

Agenda Item 8A was then taken up out of order. Mayra Bustamante of Miami-Dade Transit (MDT) explained the transfer of \$36 million in surtax funds to MDT for a portion of FY03 expenses. An additional \$34 million was initially shown in the work plan for FY04 for bus acquisition, but in the amended plan submitted to OCITT on May 12, 2004, bus acquisition was no longer a line item. The funds will be used to reimburse any of the items in the Work Plan, e.g., expanded Metrorail and Metrobus service for the current year, since the agency is seeking financing for bus purchases.

Ms. Ivonne Andres of MDT distributed proposed customer comment cards to be placed aboard buses. Members suggested several changes. Ms. Diaz said trafficrelief.com should be added. Ms. Andres said a revised version of the cards would be presented to members in the near future.

Members received the municipal transportation surtax funds projections for FY04 and FY 05.

A discussion followed regarding the municipal surtax distribution population adjustment. The Committee agreed that the current staff policy of reflecting the population adjustment for the subsequent fiscal year is better for planning and budgeting for municipalities, rather than making the adjustments mid-year. Ms. Diaz said that the issue of mid-year vs. end-of-year adjustments has not been raised by municipalities. Mr. Moss recommended withdrawing the item and advising the Budget and Finance Committee of their recommendation to take no action.

Mr. Buoniconti expressed his concern about new municipalities negotiating with the county for surtax funds from the 80 percent county share. According to the Ordinance, only those municipalities already existing at the time of the Referendum would be eligible to receive a pro rata share of the 20 percent municipal portion of surtax proceeds. Mr. Buoniconti said allowing new municipalities to use part of the 80 percent county share would jeopardize funding for planned projects in the PTP, which includes Metrorail expansion.

1. Action Items

RESOLUTION BY THE CITIZENS' INDEPENDENT TRANSPORTATION TRUST ENCOURAGING ALL MUNICIPALITIES, ELIGIBLE TO RECEIVE A PORTION OF THE TWENTY PERCENT MUNICIPAL SHARE OF THE CHARTER COUNTY TRANSIT SYSTEM SURTAX PROCEEDS (SURTAX), TO COMPLY WITH THE CERTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS, AS OUTLINED IN THE INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT BETWEEN MIAMI-DADE COUNTY AND ELIGIBLE MUNICIPALITIES BY SEPTEMBER 30, 2004, AND RECOMMENDING THE WITHHOLDING OF SURTAX FUNDS TO THOSE MUNICIPALITIES FAILING TO COMPLY WITH THE CERTIFICATION REQUIREMENT

Members modified the language of this resolution to replace 2004 with "of each year" and added the words "to the Board of County Commissioners" after "and recommending."

Staff was asked to prepare a written schedule for advising municipalities of the certification requirements. It was recommended that in the ensuing year, reminder notices would be sent out on April 1 and that municipalities that had not yet complied would be sent a second notice on August 1 of each year.

Mr. Moss moved for approval of the resolution; seconded by Mr. Buoniconti and carried without dissent.

7. Citizen's Comments

None.

Mr. Moss brought up a CTAC recommendation that CITT hold evening meetings to encourage greater citizen participation. Mr. Buoniconti stated that at the last Executive Planning Committee meeting, it was reiterated that, at the chairman's discretion, the CITT may schedule meetings at different times and locations throughout the county. However, he added, the CITT's past efforts to increase community participation have not been successful, noting that no citizens showed up for an evening meeting held in Miami-Dade North. Mr. Morse said meetings should continue to be televised live in order not to jeopardize the CITT's use of the County Commission chamber.

8. New Business

a. PTP Accomplishment Report

Members were presented with a report outlining the amount of surtax proceeds transferred to date to MDT and the Public Works Department (PWD), how much has been spent, on what projects, and the status of those projects.

b. PTP Status Report

Members received copies of the PTP Status Report, which includes a summary of financial capacity analyses completed in 2003; maps and information on the proposed Metrorail extensions; schedule and cost information on PWD projects; the five-year bus service plan; other MDT projects; and municipal transportation plans.

c. PTP Marketing Task Force Report

Members were given an update on the PTP/CITT marketing activities, which includes radio and print ads, a speakers bureau and a redesign of trafficrelief.com.

d. Trafficrelief/CITT Website Update

Ms. Diaz said a presentation on the website changes would be made to the committee in September or October.

Mr. Buoniconti announced that a July 20 meeting had been set up with candidates for the position of CITT financial advisor. A recommendation will be forwarded to the Board of County Commissioners following oral presentations on July 29.

9. Announcements – Next External Affairs Committee meeting –
September 20, 2004, 10 a.m.
SPCC, 10th Floor Conference Room

10. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at noon.

*****MINUTES ARE IN SUMMARY FORM***
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